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Downing-Street, September 21, 1796.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies, have been received from Captain Anſtruther by the Right Honorable Lord Grenville, His Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Head-Quarters of His Royal Highneſs the Archduke Charles, Zell, near Wurtzburg, September 4, 1796.

MY LORD,

YOUR Lordſhip is acquainted with the unfortunate Circumſtances which have obliged Colonel and Mr. R. Craufurd to remain for a Time at a Diſtance from the Scene of Operations. The Abſence of theſe Gentlemen, at a Moment ſo particularly intereſting as the preſent, muſt be regretted, as a Loſs to the Public Service, which, though at their Requeſt, I now attempt to detail to your Lordſhip the late Proceedings of the Army, I feel myſelf inadequate to ſupply.

Your Lordſhip is already informed of the Movements of His Royal Highneſs the Archduke up to the 31ſt Ultimo, at which Period the Right Wing of the Army was aſſembled in the Plain betwixt Forcheim and Bamberg, and the Left, conſiſting of upwards of Twenty Battalions and Fifty Squadrons, under the Command of Lieutenant-General Stzaray, had reached Eberach, and threatened at once, by Detachments, the Points of Schweinfurt and of Wurtzburg.

Early on the 31ſt the Archduke entered Bamberg, and, from the Information there received of the Movements of the Enemy, determined to puſh on with the whole Army towards Wurtzburg, as being the Point on the Occupation of which depended the Poſſibility of forcing Jourdan to abandon the Meyn, and take his Retreat through the Country of Fulda, on the Lahn. His Royal Highneſs proceeded in the Evening to Bourg Eberach. General Kray took Poſt at Eltmann, and General Stzaray advanced to Kloſter Schwartzach.

On the 1ſt of September the Archduke marched to Ober Schwartzach, General Kray to Geroldſhoffen, and General Stzaray to Kitzingen, where he paſſed the Meyn: His Advanced Guard, under General Hotze, took Poſſeſſion of the Town of Wurtzburg, the French Garriſon retiring into the Citadel.

In the mean Time the Enemy ſtrained every Nerve to reach Wurtzburg before the Main Body of the Auſtrian Army ſhould come up; and, by forced Marches, arrived at Kornach, within Three Leagues

[Price Four-pence Halfpenny.]

Leagues of the Town, the ſame Day on which General Hotze took Poſſeſſion of it. Next Day (the 2d) Jourdan attacked, with the utmoſt Impetuoſity the Corps under General Stzaray, but, though he ſucceeded in forcing ſome of his Poſts, he was not able to make any Impreſſion on the Main Poſition, and retired in the Evening to his Camp near Kornach. There he reſolved to abide the Event of a Battle, and, in that View, poſted himſelf in the following Manner.

His Right Wing, extending to the Meyn a little below Wurtzburg, reſted on a very commanding Eminence, in Front of which a deep River rendered the Acceſs extremely difficult. The firſt Line of his Centre occupied a long narrow Wood, ſkirting the Bottom of a Chain of Heights, on the Ridge of which his ſecond Line was poſted. His Left Wing, conſiſting almoſt entirely of Cavalry, was placed in the ſpacious Plain in Front of Kornach, but conſiderably thrown back, in order to receive the more effectual Support from the Infantry in the Wood. A numerous Artillery was diſtributed on the moſt eſſential Points along his Front. The Diviſion of Lefevre remained poſted behind Schweinfurt, to cover the great Road to Fulda, and a ſmall intermediate Corps maintained his Communication with the Army.

His Royal Highneſs halted the 2d in his Camp of Ober Schwartzach, whilſt a Bridge was thrown on the Meyn, near Dettelbach, which was not finiſhed till late in the Evening. General Kray remained at Geroltzhoffen.

General Stzaray, in the mean Time, judging, from the Force and uſual Conduct of Jourdan, that he would ſoon renew his Efforts to render himſelf Maſter of Wenſbourg, embraced the ſpirited Reſolution of rather advancing againſt him than of waiting for him in his Poſition. The Archduke approved of this Idea, and determined to facilitate the Execution of it, by making a combined Attack on the Enemy, to take Place early in the Morning of the 3d. The Intention was, that General Stzaray ſhould move forward againſt the Corps which was oppoſed to him; that the Main Body, under the Command of General Wartenſleben, paſſing the Bridge at Dettelbach, ſhould attack the Centre of the Enemy, whilſt General Kray, croſſing the River at the Point neareſt Geroltzhoffen, ſhould turn his Left Wing.

Soon after Day-Break accordingly General Stzaray advanced and drove back the Poſts of the Enemy; as, however, the other Two Columns had a conſiderable March to make, and met with much unexpected Delay in the Paſſage of the River, he ſoon found himſelf engaged alone by very ſuperior Numbers, and was obliged not only to relinquiſh the Ground he had gained, but had much Difficulty in maintaining his original Poſition. At this critical Inſtant His Royal Highneſs ſent Orders to General Wartenſleben to ford the River with the whole of his Cavalry, and advance directly againſt the Left of the Enemy. His judicious Manœuvre had the deſired Effect. Jourdan, ſeeing himſelf menaced in the moſt eſſential Point of his Poſition, withdrew from his Right the Troops with which he was preſſing General Stzaray, who thus gained Time to re-eſtabliſh himſelf in his Poſt.

The Cavalry now charged the Left of the Enemy, and drove it from it's Ground: But the Enemy retiring behind the Wood, the Auſtrians remained expoſed to a Fire of Muſquetry and Grape, which obliged them to abandon the Advantage they had gained. A ſecond Attempt of the ſame Nature had a ſimilar Fate; and, after fruitleſs Endeavours to draw the Enemy into the Plain, His Royal Highneſs reſolved to await the Arrival of the Reſt of General Wartenſleben's Column, without which it was evident the Poſition of the Enemy could not be forced.

At length the Infantry appeared advancing from Dettelbach, and General Stzaray moving forward at the ſame Time, a combined Attack was immediately formed againſt the Wood which covered the Enemy's Front. Eight Battalions of Grenadiers advanced for this Purpoſe with equal Order and Impetuoſity, regardleſs of the Swarm of *Tirailleurs* who harraſſed them, they gained the Wood without firing a Shot, and in a few Minutes drove the Enemy not only from thence but from the Heights beyond it. This Advantage, and the Appearance of General Kray's Column on the Right, decided the Fortune of the Day. Jourdan made no Attempt to recover the Ground he had loſt, but began his Retreat on every Point; this he for ſome Time conducted with much Regularity; his Cavalry preſerving conſiderable Countenance, and forming repeatedly, under Protection of their Light Artillery, to check the Purſuit of the Auſtrians. At length

however

however continually harraſſed by the Huſſars, and overpowered by a prodigious Fire of Artillery from the Heights, the Confuſion became general, the exceſſive Fatigue of the Auſtrians and the coming on of Night alone ſaved them from total Deſtruction.

The Loſs of the Auſtrians on this Occaſion amounts at moſt to Eight Hundred Men, amongſt whom are no Officers of Diſtinction; that of the Enemy is by far more conſiderable. Two thouſand Priſoners are already brought in, and the Number of Killed and Wounded cannot be ſmaller. One Colour, Six Pieces of Cannon, and a great Number of Ammunition and Baggage Waggons have fallen into the Hands of the Conqueror.

The Succeſs which on this Occaſion has attended the Auſtrian Arms is to be aſcribed chiefly to the perſonal Conduct of his Royal Highneſs the Archduke. Preſent every where, where the Danger was the moſt preſſing, he animated the Troops by his Example, and preſerved them in Order by the Coolneſs and Quickneſs of his Manœuvres, and at length ſeized, with infinite Judgment, the true Point of Attack which decided the Victory.

The Army paſſed the Night on the Field of Battle, and the next Day croſſing the Meyn at different Points, encamped near this Place,

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT ANSTRUTHER,
Captain 3d Guards.

Head Quarters of His Royal Highneſs the Archduke Charles, Zell, near Wurtzburg, September 5, 1796.

My Lord,

YEſterday the Citadel of Wurtzburg capitulated; the Garriſon, to the Number of 700 Men, ſurrendering themſelves Priſoners of War. General Belmont, Chief of the French Artillery, is amongſt the Number.

A prodigious Quantity of Stores, of Ammunition and Proviſions has been found in the Town and Citadel, partly left there by the Auſtrians, partly collected by Requiſition from the neighbouring Country.

Intelligence is received that the Enemy has abandoned in Schweinfurt 70 Pieces of Artillery, which he was unable to tranſport.

From the Reports of the Corps in Front, there is every Reaſon to believe that the Enemy has decidedly quitted the Meyn, and directed his Retreat to Fulda. The Light Troops which have been ſent in Purſuit, continually bring in Priſoners and Baggage; and the Peaſantry, exaſperated at the unheard of Outrages of the Enemy, has riſen in many Parts, and deliver up or deſtroy all the Stragglers who fall into their Hands.

His Royal Highneſs, determined to perſevere in the ſame Line of Operations, this Day detaches Colonel Count Meerfeldt, with Ten Squadrons of Light Cavalry, to form a Junction with the Garriſons of Manheim and of Mayence, by which Means a Corps of Twelve or Fifteen Thouſand Men will be enabled to act in the Rear of the Enemy. From the diſtinguiſhed Abilities of the Officer to whom this Enterprize is entruſted, the greateſt Hopes are entertained of it's Succeſs.

The Army moves this Day towards Wertheim; and the Head Quarters will be To-Morrow at Renlingen.

By the lateſt Accounts received from the other Side of the Danube, it appears that General La Tour ſtill maintained himſelf in Front of Munich; but the Succeſſes on this Side had not then produced the expected Effect of forcing General Moreau to a Retreat. It hardly ſeems poſſible that he ſhould now venture to delay it.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

ROBERT ANSTRUTHER,
Captain 3d Guards.

Wilhelmſhad, near Hanau, September 3, 1796,

IN conſequence of the late Actions, the Army of Jourdan is retreating, in the moſt diſorderly Manner poſſible, in different Directions. About 3000 Men paſſed this Place ſince Yeſterday Morning, almoſt all of them without Arms, and Dragoons and Huſſars on Foot, having loſt their Horſes. The Peaſants have almoſt every where riſen upon them, and, when in ſmall Numbers, either killed or diſarmed and plundered them: A great many have paſſed Steinheim, coming from Aſchaffenbourg, but the greater Part of the Army ſeems to be directing it's Retreat, by Fielde, towards Wetflar, in order to paſs the Lhan.

At Frankfort, and every where in the Neighbourhood, the Enemy ſeem to be preparing for their Departure. They have again taken Hoſtages from ſeveral Places belonging to the Elector of Mayence.

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